



## Summary

### About this Release

#### NOTE

The units of measurement for Local Government Finance data have been corrected as at 20/11/2006 to show data is in \$'000.

The National Regional Profile (NRP) presents a brief statistical summary of key economic and social information for various levels of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC). It includes data from a variety of ABS and non-ABS sources. Broad indicators include Estimated Resident Population, some Census data, Births and Deaths, Unemployment, Income Support Customers, Taxable Income, Building Approvals, Motor Vehicle Sales and Agriculture.

The NRP has been designed to assist users of regional statistics to understand the broad composition and structure of a region and to enable comparison across regions of Australia. The Profile is available for most Statistical Local Areas, most Local Government Areas, Statistical Subdivisions, Statistical Divisions, states and territories, and Australia.

**VIEW NATIONAL REGIONAL PROFILE -  
Main Areas - by name**

## Explanatory Notes

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

##### Introduction

1. The Regional Profile presents a standard set of data for the following levels of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC): **Statistical Local Area (SLA)**, **Local Government Area (LGA)**, **Statistical Subdivision (SSD)**, **Statistical Division (SD)**, **State/Territory** and Australia.
2. The data are sourced from a wide variety of collections, both ABS and non-ABS. When analysing the data care needs to be taken as time periods, definitions, methodologies, scope and coverage differ between collections. Where available, data have been presented as a time series. Time series data enable us to assess levels of social and economic activities over time. However, looked at on a period to period basis, these series may be volatile. When analysing the data, users are encouraged to consider the longer term behaviour of the series, where this is available.
3. While information on the datasets and terms used in this profile are included below and in the accompanying **Glossary**, more detailed information can be obtained by referring to the relevant source listed for each dataset.
4. All data are shown for boundaries as described in the 2004 edition of the ASGC (ASGC 2004). For further information see the "Statistical Geography: Volume 1 - Australian Standard Geographical Classification", 2004 (ASGC), cat. no. 1216.0, ABS, Canberra, Annual. For further information on how data has been presented on ASGC 2004, see **geographical concordances** at paragraphs 102 to 108 of these Explanatory Notes.

## Estimates of Unemployment

5. Unemployment estimates for small areas are produced by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) using the Structure Preserving Estimation (SPREE) methodology.

6. SPREE uses Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services (Centrelink) statistics of persons in receipt of unemployment benefits and ABS population and labour force estimates by labour force regions to estimate unemployment levels. Sampling and non-sampling errors in these collections will flow into the DEWR estimates.

7. This methodology produces original, unadjusted estimates which can exhibit considerable variability. The data shown in the National Regional Profile have been 'smoothed' by averaging the original data over the last four quarters to September. Particular care should be taken when interpreting estimates for regions where the estimated labour force is smaller than 1000 persons.

8. DEWR produced the estimates on ASGC 2001 boundaries so a geographic concordance has been used to present the data based on ASGC 2004. Further information on **geographic concordances** can be found in paragraphs 102 to 108.

9. A detailed description of the SPREE methodology used in deriving the estimates is presented in the DEWR quarterly publication "Small Area Labour Markets, Australia" or can be accessed through the DEWR web site at [www.workplace.gov.au](http://www.workplace.gov.au).

## Local Government Finance

10. The Local Government Finance data displayed are from the ABS Government Finance Statistics collection.

11. The system of Government Financial Statistics (GFS) provides details of revenues, expenses, cash flows and assets and liabilities of the Australian public sector.

12. Local government authorities are responsible for areas typically described as cities, towns, shires, boroughs and municipalities. Although the range of functions undertaken by local governments varies between the different jurisdictions, their powers and responsibilities are generally similar and cover such matters as:

- the construction and maintenance of roads, streets and bridges;
- water, sewerage and drainage systems;
- health and sanitary services;
- the regulation of building standards; and
- the administration of regulations relating to items such as slaughtering, weights and measures, and registration of dogs.

13. Local governments also provide transport facilities, hospitals, charitable institutions, recreation grounds, parks, swimming pools, libraries, museums and other business undertakings. Local governments' own-source revenue is derived mainly from property taxes. They also rely on grants from the Commonwealth and their parent state governments. The Australian Capital Territory has no separate local government.

14. Further information relating to Local Government expenditure can be found in **Government Finance Statistics, Australia (cat. no. 5512.0)**.

15. Detailed information on the concepts, sources and methods used in compiling GFS can be found in **Australian System of Government Finance Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (Cat. no. 5514.0)**, which is available on the ABS Web site, released September 2005.

## Selected income support customers

16. The term 'Selected income support customers' has been used to define persons receiving specific payments from various Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services (FaCS) programs for the years shown (in 2004 the responsibility for some payments were transferred from FaCS to the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations and to the Department of Education, Science and Training). The statistics shown have been compiled from data collected by Centrelink which is the

government agency delivering income support payments and services to eligible members of the community on behalf of FaCS for the years shown.

17. Centrelink customers complete claim forms in order to determine their eligibility for payments and services. The type of payment being claimed determines what form is used and how frequently claim forms need to be submitted.

18. People receiving more than one payment are only counted once by using the main payment type. Data for Age Pension, Disability Support Pension, Newstart Allowance, Parenting Payment - Single and Youth Allowance are shown separately while the following main payment types have been grouped in the "other pensions and allowances" category: Austudy, Carer Allowance, Carer Payment, Double Orphan Pension, Exceptional Circumstances, Mobility Allowance, Newstart Mature Age Allowance, Parenting Payment Partnered, Partner Allowance, Sickness Allowance, Special Benefit, Widow Allowance, Wife Pension and Widow Class B. Brief descriptions of each payment type are included in the **Glossary**.

19. Excluded from the data presented in this profile are persons whose main payment type is Bereavement Allowance, Childcare Benefit, Farm Family Restart or Family Tax Benefit Part A or B.

20. Counts of income support customers include those receiving a payment and those customers temporarily suspended from payment or not paid in the fortnight (zero paid) due to income/assets test provisions or other administrative procedures. Age Pension counts exclude payments made to persons overseas and age pensions paid by the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

21. The percentage of long-term Newstart Allowance customers and the number of Newstart Allowance customers come from different Centrelink databases. The data used to calculate the percentage of long-term Newstart Allowance customers exclude those persons temporarily suspended from payment or zero paid. Consequently, the percentages should not be applied to the Newstart Allowance numbers.

22. Data are for the fortnightly pay period closest to the end of June 2002 and the end of June 2003.

23. The statistics shown have been provided to the ABS in aggregated form only. No information about individual income support customers has been released to the ABS. A geographic concordance has been used in order to present the original postcode data on ASGC 2004 boundaries. Note that the use of this concordance may lead to total numbers for States/Territories which differ slightly from State/Territory totals published by Centrelink. Further information on **geographic concordances** can be found in paragraphs 102 to 108.

24. To preserve the confidentiality of individuals data for some areas have been added to data for other areas. The list below gives details of the areas effected by these amalgamations:

- Data for SLA 18859 Lord Howe Island is included in SLA 13754 Hastings (A) - Part B.
- Data for SLA 20573 Ballarat (C) - North is included in SLA 20572 Ballarat (C) - Inner North.
- Data for SLA 28529 French Island is included in SLA 20744 Bass Coast (S) Bal.
- Data for SLA 48899 Unincorporated Western is included in SLA 45898 Port Adelaide Enfield (C) - Port.
- Data for SLA 49039 Unincorporated Riverland is included in SLA 46674 Renmark Paringa (DC) - Renmark.
- Data for SLA 49179 Unincorporated Lincoln is included in SLA 43710 Lower Eyre Peninsula (DC).
- Data for SLA 49389 Unincorporated Whyalla included in SLA 48540 Whyalla (C).
- Data for SLA 46970 Roxby Downs (M) is included in SLA 49589 Unincorporated Far North.
- Data for SLA 62811 Hobart (C) - Inner is included in SLA 62812 Hobart (C) - Remainder.
- Data for SLA 64011 Launceston (C) - Inner is included in SLA 64012 Launceston (C) - Pt. B.

25. These amalgamations also flow into the addition of these SLAs to LGAs, but do not affect totals for SSDs or higher geographical areas.

26. Detailed information on specific payments and eligibility requirements can be found on the Centrelink web site at [www.centrelink.gov.au](http://www.centrelink.gov.au)

### **Average Individual Annual Taxable income**

27. The average individual annual taxable income data have been sourced from the annual Australian

Taxation Office (ATO) publication and CD-ROM 'Taxation Statistics'. (These are also available on the Tax Office web site at [www.ato.gov.au](http://www.ato.gov.au))

28. The main functions and responsibilities of the ATO are to administer taxation legislation and to collect a wide variety of taxes. The ATO therefore collects data from its reporting population as part of its processes to calculate income tax liability for those persons who are required to lodge an income tax return.

29. Individuals who submit an individual income tax return report their total income from various sources over a financial year. Their taxable income is the amount remaining after deducting from assessable income all deductions allowed under the Income Tax Assessment Act and is the amount to which tax rates are applied.

30. The average individual annual taxable income in an area is then calculated by dividing the total taxable income reported for an area by the total number of taxable taxpayers.

31. A geographic concordance has been used in order to present the original postcode data on ASGC 2004 boundaries. Further information on **geographic concordances** can be found in paragraphs 102 to 108.

### **Wage and salary earners**

32. The estimates for Wage and salary earners have been compiled by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) from their Individual Income Tax Return Database.

33. Individuals who submit an individual income tax return report their income from one or more of a range of sources such as wages and salary, own business, superannuation, investments and government pensions, benefits or allowances.

34. As the ATO's income tax return is designed to obtain a person's total income from various sources over a financial year, and not the employment status of a person at a particular point in time, wage and salary earners have been defined as 'persons aged 15 years and over who have submitted an individual income tax return and for whom wage and salary income was the principal (or main) source of income for the financial year'.

35. Wage and salary income, as reported on the income tax return, includes gross income as shown on the 'PAYG payment summary - individual non-business' as well as allowances, commissions, bonuses, tips, gratuities, consultation fees, honoraria, and other payments for services. Allowances and other earnings may include car, travel or transport allowances, allowances for tools, clothing or laundry and dirt, risk, meal or entertainment allowances. The data to define and compile counts of wage and salary earners have been sourced from questions 1 and 2 on the individual income tax return (Note: PAYG (Pay as You Go) payment summaries were previously known as Group Certificates).

36. All individual income tax statistics provided to the ABS by the ATO have been in aggregated form only, at the Statistical Local Area (SLA) level. Information about individual taxpayers has not been released to the ABS.

37. The statistics are based on individual income tax returns lodged for the financial year ended 30 June, regardless of the year in which they were processed.

38. A geographic concordance has been used in order to present the data on ASGC 2004 boundaries. Further information on **geographic concordances** can be found in paragraphs 102 to 108.

39. Further information on these statistics can be found in the electronic publications **Regional Wage and Salary Earner Statistics, (cat. no. 5673.0.55.001)** (for 1998-99 to 2000-01) and **cat. no. 5673.0.55.003** for 2002-03 data.

### **Source of personal income**

40. Experimental estimates of personal income brings together data aggregated from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and from the Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services (FaCS), which was responsible for income support payments for the years shown.

41. The income received by individuals have been grouped into six main categories:

- Wage and salary income (data source - ATO)
- Own unincorporated business income (data source - ATO)

- Investment income (data source - ATO)
- Superannuation and annuity income (data source - ATO)
- Government cash benefit income (data source - FaCS)
- Other income (data source - ATO)

42. Total gross income is the sum of the income from all these sources before income tax and the Medicare levy have been deducted.

43. Data are for the financial year ended 30 June.

44. For further information see Information paper: **Experimental Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, Taxation and Income Support Data, 1995-96 to 2000-01 (cat. no. 6524.0)**

### **Land area**

45. The land area figures are based upon the boundaries of the SLAs in the 2004 edition of the ASGC. The areas of the SLAs were calculated using ABS standard Geographic Information Systems software from the digital boundaries of the SLAs. Higher level spatial unit area figures are aggregations of the SLA areas.

### **Building approvals**

46. Statistics of building work approvals are compiled from:

- permits issued by local government authorities;
- contracts let or day labour work authorised by Commonwealth, State, semi-government and local government authorities;
- major building activity in areas not subject to normal administrative approval (e.g. building on remote mine sites).

47. The statistics included in this profile relate to all residential building approvals valued at \$10,000 or more and all approved non-residential building jobs valued at \$50,000 or more.

48. Construction activity not defined as building (eg. construction of roads, bridges, railways etc) is excluded from building statistics.

49. The data are for the financial year ended 30 June.

50. Data for Jervis Bay is included in the state total for New South Wales, while data for Christmas Island and Cocos-Keeling Islands is included in state total data for Western Australia.

51. For further information see **Building Approvals, Australia, cat. no. 8731.0**

### **New motor vehicle sales**

52. New motor vehicle sales statistics are based on the Vehicle Facts (VFACTS) service produced by the Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries (FCAI). VFACTS data are based on retail sales of new vehicles by all FCAI members.

53. Included are passenger vehicles, trucks, buses, vehicles with diplomatic and consular plates, State/Territory and Commonwealth owned vehicles and vehicles belonging to the defence forces. Excluded are motor cycles, plant and equipment and unpowered vehicles.

54. Data are for the financial year ended 30 June.

55. A geographic concordance has been used in order to present the original postcode data on ASGC 2004 boundaries. Further information on **geographic concordances** can be found in paragraphs 102 to 108.

56. Data for Jervis Bay Territory are included in the Unknown AUST SLA 99999, and so included in the Australian total only. Data for Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Island were included in the WA SLA 59779, and so included in the Western Australia state total.

57. Detailed monthly figures can be obtained by making inquiries to the Manager, VFACTS, Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries on (03) 9829 1234. Some information is also available by viewing the

## **Value of Agricultural Production**

58. The value of agricultural production estimates are derived by the multiplication of price and quantity of individual agricultural commodities. Quantity data for commodities was collected at the 2000-01 Agricultural Census. Price data is the average unit value of a given commodity realised in the market place. Price information is obtained from a wide range of both ABS and non-ABS sources, including marketing authorities and industry sources.

59. The values used here are "gross value of agricultural commodities produced" and represent the value placed on recorded production at the wholesale prices realised in the market place. Market place, in general, is the metropolitan market in each state. In cases where commodities are consumed locally, or where they become raw material for a secondary industry, these points are presumed to be the market place.

60. The method of collection of relevant prices for agricultural commodities and the costs of marketing these commodities vary considerably between states and between commodities. Where a statutory authority handles marketing of the whole or a portion of a product, price data are usually obtained from this source. Price information is also obtained from marketing reports, wholesalers, brokers and auctioneers. For all commodities, values are in respect of production during the year (or season) irrespective of when payments are made.

61. Estimates for small areas such as Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) and Local Government Areas (LGAs) are only available for years in which an Agricultural Census is conducted. The most recent Agricultural Census was conducted in respect of 2000-01.

62. Value of agricultural production estimates are subject to standard error. Estimates with an RSE greater than 50% are not shown as the estimates are considered too unreliable for general use.

63. Further information on 'Value of Agricultural Production' can be obtained in the ABS publication **Agricultural Commodities, Australia (cat. no 7121.0)**

## **Population**

64. Population figures are the estimated resident population (ERP) for the selected region as at 30 June for the year shown. Data are shown to the nearest whole number without rounding, but accuracy to the last digit is not claimed and should not be assumed.

65. The concept of ERP links people to a place of usual residence within Australia. Usual residence is defined as that place where each person has lived or intends to live for six months or more in the reference year.

66. In census years the ERP as at 30 June for a region is based on usual residence census counts, with an allowance for net census undercount and the number of residents temporarily overseas at the census date. Overseas visitors in Australia are excluded from this calculation. As the census is held at a date other than 30 June (7 August in 2001), further adjustments taking into account births, deaths and net migration for the intervening period are made to obtain the ERP at 30 June.

67. For post-censal years, estimates at the Australian level take into account natural increase and net overseas migration, while estimates for states and territories also use estimated interstate movements involving a change of usual residence. However the absence of migration data at the SLA level means that it is not possible to estimate SLA populations by taking into account natural increase and net migration. Instead, ERPs are calculated using a mathematical model.

68. In the mathematical model a relationship is established between changes in population and changes in other indicators over the period between the two most recent censuses.

69. The choice of indicators varies across the states and territories, depending on availability, and includes dwelling approvals, electricity connections, Medicare enrolments and drivers' licences. Changes in these indicators are then used to estimate changes in the population of each area since the last census. The choice of indicators also varies across SLAs depending on aspects such as whether the SLA is urban or rural, is growing or declining, and whether the area has a high or low proportion of houses or medium and high density dwellings.

70. Local knowledge, including that advised by local governments, may be used to adjust the outcome of the model for a particular SLA.

71. A more detailed description of the ERP methodology as adopted by the ABS for official population estimates, is contained in **Demographic Estimates and Projections: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 3228.0)**

72. Further information on ERP data can be found in **Regional Population Growth, Australia (cat. no. 3218.0)**.

### **Indigenous Population**

73. The indigenous population figures are experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (Indigenous) population of Australia at 30 June 2001, based on the 2001 Census.

74. The indigenous population is comprised of people who are of Aboriginal origin, Torres Strait Islander origin or both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin.

75. The estimates of the indigenous population are experimental. The significant intercensal volatility in indigenous Census counts and the quality of data on births, deaths and migration do not support the standard approach to population estimation.

76. In the estimation of the indigenous population, Census counts of indigenous persons by Statistical Local Area (SLA) of usual residence were adjusted to produce the estimated population as at 7 August 2001. Next the effects of births, deaths, overseas migration and interstate migration for the 38 days between 1 July and 7 August 2001 were removed to derive 30 June 2001 estimates.

77. A more detailed description of the methodology adopted by the ABS for estimates of the indigenous population are contained in **Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991 to 2009 (Cat. no. 3238.0)**

### **Census 2001**

78. The National Regional Profile presents a summary of population characteristics from the 2001 Census. More detailed data are available from the **Census Theme page** on the ABS website. All Census data in the National Regional Profile is on a usual residence basis (see paragraph 80).

79. The Census enumerates people where they were located on Census night. Most standard products from the Census provide characteristics of people on this place of enumeration basis. Census counts by place of enumeration: include overseas visitors for Age, Sex and Registered Marital Status; exclude overseas visitors for all other person variables; and exclude Australian residents temporarily overseas.

80. Census data are also available on place of usual residence, which is the place a person usually lives, rather than the place they were counted on Census night. Census counts by place of usual residence exclude overseas visitors and Australian residents temporarily overseas.

81. For more information, see **How Australia takes a Census (Cat. no. 2903.0)** and the information paper **2001 Census of Population and Housing Nature and Content (Cat. no. 2008.0)**.

### **Overseas Born Population**

82. The statistics shown on Australia's overseas born population are from the 2001 Census.

83. The '**Standard Classification of Countries' (SACC) (Cat. no. 1269.0)** was used to classify responses for birthplace of individuals. This classification used the current names of countries, so if a person uses a former name the current name is coded. For example, Siam would be coded to Thailand. If an individual's birthplace was not stated on the Census form, an attempt was made to derive it from other answers.

84. The data shown exclude overseas visitors, persons at sea at the time of the Census, and persons whose responses on the Census form inadequately described their country of birth or for whom the birthplace was not stated (and could not be derived).

### **Speaks language other than English**

85. This data is from the 2001 Census and identifies the language spoken at home, and is coded using the **Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL) (Cat. no. 1267.0)**. Only one language is coded for each person.

### **Qualifications**

86. The data shown describe the level of education of the highest completed non-school qualification (eg. bachelor degree, diploma).

87. The full classification for levels of education and fields of study, together with an explanation of the conceptual basis of the classification, can be found in the publication **Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED) (Cat. no. 1272.0)**.

### **Occupation**

88. The Occupation figures shown are from the 2001 Census and include all employed people aged 15 years and over. Two questions are used in the Census. The first of these asks for occupation title, while the second asks for the main tasks usually performed by the person in their occupation. Collecting both occupation title and task information ensures more accurate coding of occupations.

89. Occupations are coded using the **Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) Second Edition (Cat. no.1220.0)**. The Occupation code assigned is based on the main job held during the week prior to Census Night.

### **Households**

90. The data on households are from the 2001 Census. The data describes the type of household within a dwelling. Family households can contain non-family members (unrelated persons and visitors).

91. A maximum of three families can be coded to a household. Lone person households can contain visitors.

### **Families**

92. The family data shown are from the 2001 Census. Families have been classified in terms of the relationships that exist between a single family reference person and each other member of that family. Different types of families are distinguished based on the presence or absence of couple relationships, parent-child relationships, child dependency relationships or other blood relationships, in that order of preference.

93. The family type is derived from people enumerated in the household who usually reside there and who share a familial relationship. Partners and dependent children usually present but temporarily absent are also included in this derivation. Boarders and other non-family members are excluded.

### **Proportion of Population in Remoteness Area**

94. The percentages shown indicate the proportion of the population living in each category of Remoteness for the selected region. The proportions are based on where people were on the night of the 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

95. The Remoteness Structure was added to the ASGC in 2001 in order to provide a standard geographical structure describing Australia in terms of a measurement of remoteness or distance from services. It is designed to allow quantitative comparisons between 'city' and 'country' Australia.

96. The Remoteness Structure is based upon the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA) which was developed for the former Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care (now Department of Health and Ageing) by the National Key Centre for Social Applications of Geographical Information Systems (GISCA). ARIA measures the remoteness of a point based on the road distances to the nearest town (service centre) in each of five population size classes. The basic premises of ARIA are that there are more services available in larger towns than small towns and that remoteness is a factor of the relative distance one must travel to access a full range of services.

97. The Remoteness Structure contains the following categories which provide a measurement of whether geographic distances impose restrictions on the accessibility to the widest range of goods, services and opportunities for social interaction:



- **Major Cities** of Australia - imposes minimal restriction e.g. Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong, Melbourne, Geelong, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Adelaide, Perth and Canberra.
- **Inner Regional** Australia - imposes some restriction e.g. Tamworth, Wagga Wagga (New South Wales), Ballarat, Bendigo (Victoria), Rockhampton, Bundaberg, Gladstone (Queensland), the Adelaide Hills (South Australia), Bunbury (Western Australia), Hobart and Launceston (Tasmania).
- **Outer Regional** Australia - imposes a moderate restriction e.g. Broken Hill, Griffith, Gunnedah (New South Wales), Horsham, Swan Hill, Traralgon (Victoria), Roma, Cairns (Queensland), Port Augusta, Mount Gambier (South Australia), Albany (Western Australia) and Burnie (Tasmania), and Darwin (Northern Territory).
- **Remote** Australia - imposes a high restriction e.g. Cobar (New South Wales), the northern Wimmera district (Victoria), Charters Towers and Cooktown (Queensland), Port Lincoln (South Australia), the Kalgoorlie gold-fields (Western Australia), parts of the West Coast (Tasmania), Alice Springs and Katherine (Northern Territory).
- **Very Remote** Australia - imposes the highest restriction e.g. The far west parts of New South Wales and Queensland, northern South Australia and Western Australia, most of the Northern Territory and Flinders and King Islands in Bass Strait (Tasmania).

98. Detailed information about the Remoteness Structure can be referenced in [Information Paper: ABS Views on Remoteness, 2001 \(cat. no. 1244.0\)](#) and [Information Paper: Outcomes of ABS Views on Remoteness Consultation, Australia, 2001 \(cat. no. 1244.0.00.001\)](#)

## Population density

99. The population density for a region is calculated by dividing the estimated resident population (ERP) by the land area to obtain the number of persons per square kilometre.

## Births

100. Birth statistics are presented on the basis of the usual residence of the mother regardless of where in Australia the birth occurred or was registered. The data refer to live births registered during the calendar year shown, and are supplied to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) by each state/territory Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages for compilation into the aggregate statistics in this publication. For more information refer to [Births, Australia \(cat. no. 3301.0\)](#).

## Deaths

101. Death statistics are presented on the basis of the usual residence of the deceased regardless of where in Australia the death occurred or was registered. The data refer to deaths registered during the calendar year shown, and are supplied to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) by each state/territory Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages for compilation into the aggregate statistics in this publication. For more information refer to [Deaths, Australia \(cat. no. 3302.0\)](#).

## Geographic concordances

102. The data in this profile are shown for boundaries as described in the 2004 edition of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC).

103. Where data were originally available by other geographic areas or based on a previous edition of the ASGC a geographic concordance has been applied to convert the data to ASGC 2004 boundaries.

104. These concordances (or conversions) use factors based on population to produce estimates on the desired region.

105. For example, aggregated postcode data can be used to produce estimates at the SLA level by using postcode to SLA conversion factors. The conversion factors are based on the estimated resident population for each particular year.

106. The following example shows how the concordances are applied. An SLA covers three postcode areas; all of postcode 0001 and parts of postcodes 0002 and 0003. Based on the estimated resident population at 30 June 2003, the proportions of the population, or concordance factors, in each postcode that make up the SLA were: 100.00% for postcode 0001, 26.71% for postcode 0002 and 62.60% for postcode 0003. By applying these factors to the relevant total population for each postcode, in this case the people receiving the Age Pension, an estimate of 8,530 for the SLA was derived.

### EXAMPLE - POSTCODE TO SLA CONCORDANCE

| Postcode         | Age pension<br>no. | Conversion factor<br>no. | SLA share<br>no. |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| 0001             | 3,294              | 1.0000                   | 3,294            |
| 0002             | 2,680              | 0.2671                   | 716              |
| 0003             | 7,221              | 0.6260                   | 4,520            |
| <b>SLA total</b> |                    |                          | <b>8,530</b>     |

107. When analysing concorded data the following limitations of this methodology need to be taken into account:

- in applying the concordances it is assumed that the particular characteristics of any data item are uniformly distributed across an area and therefore concorded data may not truly reflect the distribution of the characteristics of the population. In some cases, where one area is split across two or more SLAs and there are no other contributing areas, distinct numerical estimates will be derived but rates or averages will be identical for each SLA (as these will be equivalent to the original rate or average of the contributing area);
- the conversion factors are based on total population only;
- some official postcodes (such as PO boxes, etc.) do not correspond to residential areas but may still be reported in the current home address field. Data for these and other 'invalid' postcodes, such as those due to incorrect reporting or processing errors, have been included in an 'unknown' category for each state and territory and for Australia where the state or territory was not known.

108. While care was taken in producing and applying the concordances the ABS will not guarantee the accuracy of concorded data.

#### **VIC - Road Traffic Fatalities & Road Traffic Major Injuries**

109. Statistics on the number of number of road traffic collisions involving fatalities and major injuries in Victoria are provided by the Victoria Police Statistical Services Division. Data on fatalities are based on the reports provided by the Police members and fatal Incident Fact Sheets. Collisions and injuries data are obtained from accident report forms (VP Form 510). Due to compliance with the Federal Office of Road Safety guidelines and delays in the supply of collision data, the data may be subject to revision at a later date. For more information, refer to the Victoria Police website at <http://www.police.vic.gov.au>

#### **VIC - Recorded Crime Offences**

110. Statistics on recorded crime offences by Victorian Police Regions are provided by the Victoria Police Statistical Services Division. Only the most serious offence in a distinct course of criminal conduct is recorded in official statistics, even though multiple charges may be laid for one incident. For example, if an offender carrying a firearm commits an armed robbery and assaults a staff member, only the armed robbery is recorded although the offender will be charged with both offences.

111. The recorded crime statistics include only those offences which become known to police and for which a crime report has been completed and are recorded between 1 July and 30 June regardless of when the offence occurred or when it was reported to police (over 85% of all offences are recorded within 48 hours of being reported to police). There are over 4000 individual statutory and common law offences are grouped into 27 broad offence categories (loosely based on the Australian National Classification of Offences). These are further aggregated into four general classes of "Crime against the Person", "Crime Against Property", "Drug Offences" and "other Crime". For more information, refer to the Victoria Police website at <http://www.police.vic.gov.au>

#### **VIC - Condition Of Main Roads**

112 Measures of road condition in Victoria are provided by VicRoads for all 'declared roads'. Declared roads include National highways, State Highways, Main Roads, Tourist Roads, and Forest Roads, i.e. all roads for which VicRoads has responsibility. It excludes local roads. The VicRoads website is <http://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au>

## **VIC - Government-Owned Social Housing Stocks**

113. Government-owned social housing stocks include both public housing and government-owned community housing. Data on government-owned social housing in Victoria are provided by the Office of Housing, Department of Human Services, Victoria.

## **VIC - Life Expectancy At Birth**

114. Data on life expectancy in Victoria is provided by the Department of Human Services, Victoria. Life expectancy is considered as an indicator of the particular health of any given population. For a child born today, life expectancy is calculated as the average life span of the child, on the assumption that currently observed age-and-sex specific death rates continue indefinitely into the future. For more details refer to the Department of Human Services, Victoria website at <http://www.health.vic.gov.au>.

## **QLD - Schools and students**

115. The SD and LGA statistics in these profiles were provided by the Queensland Department of Education and the Arts. These were compiled from the annual National Schools Statistics Collection (NSSC), which is a collaborative arrangement between state, territory and Australian Government education authorities and the ABS. The NSSC uses a set of concepts, definitions and classifications developed jointly by these agencies.

## **QLD - Housing**

116. The Real Estate Institute of Queensland (REIQ) is the state's professional association for the real estate industry and exists to support member real estate agents with information, products and resources. REIQ provided data on housing sales, median prices, and average prices. The base data are sourced from the Queensland Valuation and Sales database, maintained by the Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines.

## **SA - Schools**

117 The Government school data have been compiled from data provided by the Department for Education, Training and Employment. The figures are as at August of each year, with the number of student enrolments being expressed in rounded, full-time equivalents. The Non-government Schools Secretariat supplied the data for Non-government schools, with the number of student enrolments shown being the average of the figures collected for February and August of each year.

## **SA - Property sales**

118. The property sales information has been compiled from data provided by the SA Department of Administrative and Information Services, Land Services Group, Office of the Valuer-General. The statistics included only relate to sales for which payment was received equivalent to the full value of the property, and have been shown according to the land use categories prescribed by the Local Government (Land Use) Regulations, 1989.

## **SA - Property valuations**

119. The property valuations information has been compiled from data provided by the SA Department of Administrative and Information Services, Land Services Group, Office of the Valuer-General.

## **WA - Hospital Separations**

120. The data were obtained from the Department of Health, Western Australia. The hospital separation data presented in this Profile are based on the postcode of the patient's residential address. They are derived from records submitted by Western Australian public and private hospitals to the Department of Health's Morbidity Data System.

121. These hospital separations statistics have been derived using a concordance to convert the residential postcode of the patient to a specified area. Where a residential address was given as a post-office box and could not be directly assigned to a local government area, the patient information was only included at the aggregated statistical sub-division geographic level.

122. The diagnosis classification used is the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related

### **WA - Perinatal Separations**

123. The data were sourced from the Department of Health's Midwives Notification Service, Western Australia. Perinatal Statistics are based on the postcode of the patient's residential address.

### **WA - Schools**

124. The data are sourced from the Department of Education and Training, Western Australia. It is taken as at second semester and excludes pre-schools and pre-school teaching staff.

### **WA - Tourist Developments**

125. The data were sourced from the Western Australian Tourism Commission. Tourist Development are taken from the Tourist Developments Register which contains a summary of the information collected in related to tourism development activity occurring within Western Australia. The data are obtained from Local Government Authorities, Regional Development Commissions, developers, consultants, and other sources.

### **WA - Length of Roads**

126. Data sourced from Main Roads, Western Australia.

### **WA - Vegetation**

127. Data sourced from the Department of Agriculture, Western Australia. It excludes urban and pastoral leases.

### **WA - Average Water Use**

128. Average water use information displayed in this profile are derived from information supplied by the Water Corporation, Western Australia. Data relates to Water Corporation clients and their consumption of water. It does not include use of private water tanks.

### **WA - Reported Offences**

129. These data are sourced from the Western Australian Police Service's Offence Information System. Reported offences are selected offences reported to, or becoming known to, police and resulting in the submission of a report. The number of reported offences in a period may include offences that occurred during earlier periods. The data are also subject to revision as further data become available. Offences are classified according to Offence Information System offence codes. Offence classifications may change between periods due to changes in legislation or administrative recording practices and, therefore, time series may be broken.

130. For further details see <<http://www.police.wa.gov.au/AboutUs/pdf/crimestatnotes.pdf>>

### **WA - Fines and Infringements**

131. These data, from the Fines Enforcement Agency at the Department of Justice in Western Australia, provide a snapshot of fines and infringements as at 4th September 2004 and the 15th September 2005. Included are outstanding court fines issued since 1991 and all outstanding infringements issued since 1995. It is important to note that although some fines and infringements may be classified as written off, they are kept on the system, and can be re-activated as incomplete in certain circumstances. Fines and infringements classified as written off may also include a range of administrative cases, such as fines and infringements issued in error.

### **WA - Minerals and Petroleum**

132. Data sourced from the Department of Industry and Resources, Western Australia.

### **WA - Fisheries production**

133. The data were sourced from the Department of Fisheries, Western Australia. The estimated values of fishery production for 2002/03 onwards are mostly based on the estimated unit price for 2000/01 except for

the top 30 fish species, western rock lobster, prawn, scallop, and abalone species.

134. The commercial value of shark fin was estimated by research scientists and began to be reported in general publications from the 2000/01 financial year.

135. The estimated value data represent a gross estimated value of the fish products taken by wild capture fisheries only. The data do not include landings from: Commonwealth managed fisheries, such as the Tuna and Billfish longline fishery; deepwater trawl fisheries; and the Northern prawn fisheries. Also, excluded are specimen shells, marine aquarium fish, corals and sponges taken by commercial fishermen under special licences. The data relate to the port of landing at which the fishers indicated they had unloaded their catches, which may or may not relate to the area from which the catch was taken.

136. Catches taken from Western Australian water but landed at Darwin are not included. Prawn catches taken from the Kimberley region which are reported to AFMA are not included.

### **WA - Forestry Production**

137. The data were sourced from the Western Australian Tourism Commission. Values are charges to customers for timber, including stumpage, administrative, delivery etc from the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM). The data excludes arid timber sandalwood.

### **TAS - Property Sales and Valuations and Rateable Land Use**

138. Property Sales, Property Valuations and Rateable Land Use data are produced by the Land Services Division of the Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment (DPIWE). Data are extracted from the Land Information System Tasmania (LIST) data base. The LIST is a whole of government, integrated land information infrastructure with a web based delivery system. Property transaction information is updated on the LIST data base on a day to day basis.

139. The LIST is governed by the Land Information Coordination Committee (LICC). The committee is made up of representatives from State and Local Governments and Government Business Enterprises with an interest in land management. The committee has the responsibility for developing policies and strategies relating to data quality.

140. More information about the LIST can be found at <http://www.dpiwe.tas.gov.au>

### **TAS - Roads**

141. Data on Roads owned by Local Government are provided by the State Government Grants Commission in its annual report. More information can be found in the report at <http://www.treasury.tas.gov.au>. The State Grants Commission was established under the State Grants Commission Act 1976. It is responsible for making recommendations to the Treasurer concerning the distribution of Commonwealth financial assistance grants and local road funding to local government.

142. The data on Local Government roads are produced from an annual survey, conducted by the Department of Premier and Cabinet's Local Government Division for their Key Performance Indicator Project. The survey collects data on length of different type of roads. The data are owned by local government and includes length of urban sealed, urban unsealed, rural sealed, and rural unsealed roads in kilometres. The Tasmanian Department of Treasury reports that data are of good quality, and are subject to continued audits by the councils.

143. Data on National Roads and State Government Roads are provided by the Asset Information Group, which is part of the Tasmanian Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (DIER). The department's website is: <http://www.transport.tas.gov.au>.

### **TAS - Public Housing**

144. The Housing Tasmania Division of the State Government Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) aims to provide access to adequate, affordable, and appropriate housing for people on low incomes, and particularly for people who have specialist housing requirements. Person and property records are subject to regular audits and, for the most part, inconsistencies are addressed through this process.

145. Information is held for all applicant and tenant households and all properties for which the Director of Housing is title holder. Data are provided for the number of public housing rental properties, occupants of

public housing rental properties by age and public housing waiting lists.

146 More information on public housing can be found on the department's website: <http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au>.

### **TAS - Licensed Gaming Premises and Machines**

147. Data about licensed gaming premises and machines is provided by the Tasmanian Department of Treasury and Finance, Liquor and Gaming Branch. Data are collected under the Liquor and Accommodation Act 1990 (Tas). Licensed gaming premises and machines do not include figures from the Wrest Point Casino in Hobart and Country Club Casino in Launceston.

148. More information can be found at <http://www.treasury.tas.gov.au>.

### **TAS - Register of the National Estate**

149. The Australian Heritage Database contains over 20,000 records for places in Australia, many of which are entered in the World Heritage List, the National Heritage List, the Commonwealth Heritage List, and the Register of the National Estate. The Register of the National Estate, originally compiled by the Australian Heritage Commission, is now an information source maintained by the recently formed Australian Heritage Council. The Register of the National Estate includes more than 13,000 places of natural, historic and indigenous significance.

150. The Register of the National Estate allows people to investigate and appreciate the heritage value of places, and enables decision makers, researchers and community groups to factor heritage value into account in their decisions. The Register of the National Estate Database includes: name of place; description, history and condition; status and class; address, state, LGA, geocoordinates, map references and maps; bibliography; photographs; statement of significance and digitized boundaries for all listed places.

151. More information can be found at <http://www.ahc.gov.au>.

## **Glossary**

### **Glossary**

#### **Age pension**

A payment for people who have reached retirement age. To qualify for the Age Pension a male must be aged 65 years, while the age at which a female may qualify depends upon her birth date. There are also other eligibility requirements with regard to assets, income and residency which must be met. This payment is the responsibility of the Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services.

#### **Area of CALM estate (WA)**

The Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) is vested with land that is managed for conservation. The CALM estate includes reserves that are consistent with the IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature) categories, and other reserves that fall outside of the IUCN categories.

#### **Area on conservation estate (IUCN Class 1-4 Reserves) (WA)**

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Categories 1-4 comprise of :

**Category 1a** defined as Strict Nature Reserve: protected area managed mainly for science. Area of land and/or sea possessing some outstanding or representative ecosystems, geological or physiological features and/or species, available primarily for scientific research and/or environmental monitoring.

**Category 1b** defined as Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection. Large area of unmodified or slightly modified land and/or sea, retaining its natural character and influence, without permanent or significant habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural condition.

**Category 2** defined as National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation. Natural area of land and/or sea, designated to (a) protect the ecological integrity of one or more ecosystems for present and future generations, (b) exclude exploitation or occupation inimical to the purposes of designation of the area and (c) provide a foundation for spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational and visitor opportunities, all of which must be environmentally and culturally compatible.

**Category 3** defined as Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features. Area containing one or more specific natural or natural/cultural feature which is of outstanding or unique value because of its inherent rarity, representative, or aesthetic qualities or its cultural significance.

**Category 4** defined as Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention. Area of land and/or sea subject to active intervention for management purposes so as to ensure the maintenance of habitats and/or to meet the requirements of specific species.

### **Assault (WA)**

Includes the offences of non-aggravated sexual assault, aggravated sexual assault, non-aggravated assault, and aggravated assault.

### **Assessed annual value (TAS)**

The gross annual income a person owning land might reasonably expect to obtain by letting it to a tenant upon reasonable terms and conditions.

### **Australian Standard Geographical Classification**

The Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) is a classification maintained by the ABS, for the collection and dissemination of geographically classified statistics. The ASGC is updated each year. All data in the 2005 National Regional Profile is presented on ASGC 2003.

### **Average individual annual taxable income**

This is calculated by dividing the total taxable income in an area by the total number of taxable taxpayers.

### **Average value house prices (QLD)**

The total value of all house sales within the year divided by the total number of sales.

### **Average wage and salary income**

This is calculated by dividing the total wage and salary income in an area by the total number of wage and salary earners.

### **Average total Income of wage and salary earners**

For wage and salary earners, this is calculated by dividing the total income by the total number of wage and salary earners.

### **Bare or poorly vegetated (WA)**

Areas carrying little or no vegetation.

### **Base metals (WA)**

Includes Copper By-Product, Copper Concentrates, Copper Cathode, Lead, and Zinc.

### **Burglary (WA)**

Includes burglary to dwelling and to buildings other than dwellings.

### **Capital value (TAS)**

The capital sum which a property might be expected to realise if offered for sale on reasonable terms and conditions.

### **Clay (WA)**

Includes Attapulgitic, Clay Shale, Fire Clay, Kaolin and Saponite.

### **Commercial /industrial property sale (SA)**

In South Australia, this refers to the sale of land used for commercial or industrial use within the meaning of the Development Control Regulations (which relate to the South Australian Local Government (Land Use) Regulations, 1989). Shops and offices are included in commercial use while light industry is included in industrial use.

### **Construction materials (WA)**

Includes Aggregate, Gravel, Rock, Sand and Sandstone.

### **Crude birth rate**

The crude birth rate is the number of live births registered during the calendar year per 1,000 estimated resident population at 30 June of that year.

### **Crude death rate**

The crude death rate is the number of deaths registered during the calendar year per 1,000 estimated resident population at 30 June of that year.

### **Dimension stone (WA)**

Includes Granite and Marble.

### **Disability support pension**

A payment for people whose physical, intellectual or psychiatric impairment prevents them from working, or for people who are permanently blind. For the years shown, this payment was the responsibility of the Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services.

### **Distressed pavement (VIC)**

Distressed pavement is defined as 30% of a pavement with more than 10mm rutting together with at least 10% cracking.

### **Drugs (WA)**

Includes: drug offences (traffic) which includes the unlawful sale, supply, cultivation, or manufacture of a prohibited drug or plant; and drug offences (possess) which is the unlawful possession or use of a prohibited drug or plant, or the unlawful possession of a smoking implement.

### **Drug offences (VIC)**

For offences against statute such as the possession and use of illicit drugs, the number of alleged offenders is the counting unit (e.g three offenders are found in possession of cannabis, three offences are recorded).

### **Dwelling unit**

A dwelling unit is a self-contained suite of rooms, including cooking and bathing facilities and intended for long-term residential use. Regardless of whether they are self-contained or not, units within buildings offering institutional care (e.g. hospital) or temporary accommodation (e.g. motels, hostels and holiday apartments) are not defined as dwelling units. Such units are included in the appropriate category of non-residential building approvals. Dwelling units can be created in one of four ways: through new work to create a residential building; through alteration/addition work to an existing residential building; through either new or alteration/addition work on non-residential building or through conversion of a non-residential building to a residential building.



### **Estimated cost (tourism developments) (WA)**

The estimated development cost of the project which does not include the cost of land. Where the overall project comprises both tourism and non-tourism components, the cost is the estimated cost of the tourism component.

### **Government cash benefit income**

Payments (i.e. Government pensions, benefits and allowances) made by Centrelink to 'income support' customers. Refers to income support customers only but includes both their income support and non-income support payments if applicable. Customers who were only on a non-income support payment for the entire year have not been counted and the value of their non-income support payments have not been included. Where a customer was on income support for only part of the year they have been included (as well as their non-income support payments if applicable), but for any period they were only on non-income support payments, the value of the payments received in that period are excluded.

### **Government Finance Statistics (GFS)**

Government Finance Statistics (GFS) refer to statistics that measure the financial transactions of governments and reflect the impact of these transactions on other sectors of the economy. GFS focuses on financial transactions such as governments' spending, lending, taxing and borrowing activities.

### **Government schools teaching staff (WA)**

The number of full-time equivalent teachers.

### **Graffiti (WA)**

Property damage caused by the application of substances (e.g. paint, posters, and/or plastic, metal, or wood based compounds) to the surface of the property.

Most graffiti offences are committed against public property and the number of offences reported during a period can vary due to the strategies and practices adopted by some government agencies, local government authorities, and private enterprise. Graffiti offences are, on occasions, reported by victims in batches rather than individually. This may result in a slight variation in reported graffiti offences over consecutive periods.

### **Heavy mineral sands (WA)**

Includes Garnet Sand, Ilmenite, Upgraded Ilmenite, Leucoxene, Rutile, Staurolite, and Zircon.

### **Homicide (WA)**

Includes driving causing death.

### **Household**

A household is defined as a group of two or more related or unrelated people who usually reside in the same dwelling, who regard themselves as a household, and who make common provision for food or other essentials for living; or a person living in a dwelling who makes provision for his/her own food and other essentials for living, without combining with any other person.

### **Individual annual taxable income**

For an individual, the taxable income is the amount remaining after deducting from assessable income all deductions allowed under the Income Tax Assessment Act for that year and is the amount to which tax rates are applied. Average individual annual taxable income in an area is calculated by dividing the total taxable income by the total number of taxable taxpayers.

### **Indigenous population**

Includes persons of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.

**Industrial pegmatite minerals (WA)**

Includes feldspar.

**Infringements (WA)**

Infringement notices are issued by Police, local government authorities, and various other prosecuting agencies either in person or through the post.

**Investment income**

Includes interest from financial institutions, net rent and dividends or distributions (including imputation credits) from and Australian company, corporate unit trust or public trading trust. Includes distributions from non-primary production trusts which mainly includes income from investments in cash management trusts, property trusts, money market trusts, mortgage trusts and unit trusts.

**Iron ore (WA)**

Includes Domestic and Exported iron ore.

**Labour force**

For any group, persons who were employed or unemployed as defined.

**Land value (Tas)**

The capital value less a deduction for visible improvements. In the case of vacant land the value is based on sales.

**Lettable units (WA)**

A lettable unit can be either a motel room, caravan site, chalet, tent site, bunk in a dormitory, cottage, or 2-3 bedroom hotel suite. However, if for example, a two bedroom unit is designed so that each bedroom can be rented separately, then this would be considered to be two lettable units.

**Licensed gaming premises (Tas)**

The number of gaming premises hosting gaming machines (excluding the Wrest Point Casino in Hobart and Country Club Casino in Launceston).

**Livestock products**

Includes wool, liquid whole milk, and eggs.

**Local government area**

Local Government Areas (LGAs) are spatial units which represent the geographical areas of incorporated local government councils. Each LGA has an official status which is indicated by the LGA type : (A) NSW LGA (excluding Cities), (AC) Aboriginal Council, (B) Borough, (C) City, (CGC) Community Government Council, (DC) District Council, (IC) Island Council, (M) Municipality/Municipal Council, (S) Shire, (RC) Rural City, (RegC) Regional Council and (T) Town. The major areas of Australia not administered by incorporated bodies are the northern parts of South Australia, most of the Northern Territory and all of the Australian Capital Territory and the Other Territories. LGAs are made up of one or more statistical local areas (SLAs) .

**Machines (Tas)**

The number of gaming machines (excluding those from the Wrest Point Casino in Hobart and Country Club Casino in Launceston)

**Mean sales price (Tas)**

The mean sales price is derived by dividing the total sales value by the number of properties sold for a particular geographical area.

**Median value house prices (QLD)**

The mid-point of the distribution of recorded house prices.

**Medium/high skill occupations**

This includes: managers and administrators; professionals; associate professionals; tradespersons and related workers; and advanced clerical and service workers.

**Mosaics (WA)**

Vegetation which comprises of two or more of the listed categories: forests; woodlands; shrublands; sedgelands; succulent steppe; which are unidentifiable from aerial photography.

**Newstart allowance**

A payment which provides assistance to working-aged unemployed people, aimed at ensuring recipients participate in activities designed to help their employment prospects. Long term Newstart Allowance customers are those who have been receiving payments for more than 364 days. For the years shown, this payment was the responsibility of the Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services.

**Nickel industry (WA)**

This industry is involved in the extraction and refinement of the following minerals: Cobalt By-Product; Cobalt Metal; Cobalt Sulphide; Nickel Concentrates; Nickel Metal; Palladium By-Product; and Platinum By-Product.

**Non-residential building**

A non-residential building is primarily intended for purposes other than long-term residential purposes.

**Offences against the person (Vic)**

For all crime against the person, the counting unit is the number of principal victims for each separate occurrence of the offence (eg. two persons are assaulted by three offenders - two offences are recorded).

**Offences against property (Vic)**

For most crime against property, the counting unit is the number of principal victims for each separate occurrence of the offence (eg. two persons suffer property damage inflicted by three offenders - two offences are recorded).

**Open forest (WA)**

Vegetation dominated by trees at least 3 metres high with a crown cover of at least 50%.

**Other (vegetation) (WA)**

Includes Heath, sparse trees, and tussock grassland.

**Other income**

Other income reported on the individual tax return that was not allocated to wage and salary income, own unincorporated business income, investment income or superannuation and annuity income.

**Other offences (Vic)**

For a small number of infrequent offences, such as piracy, the event itself becomes the counting unit.

**Other pensions and allowances**

These payments contribute to the Total selected income support customer numbers:

- **Austudy** - The Austudy Payment, introduced 1 July 1998, provides assistance to students aged

25 years and older. It is made to students whose financial circumstances are such that without financial help, full time study would not be possible.

- **Carer allowance** - A payment for a person providing full-time care to another person who has a physical, intellectual or psychiatric disability and who (for the years shown) received a payment from the Australian Government Department of Family and Community Service or Department of Veteran's Affairs.
- **Carer payment** - A payment for a person providing full-time care to another person who has a physical, intellectual or psychiatric disability and who (for the years shown) did not receive a payment from the Australian Government Department of Family and Community Service or Department of Veteran's Affairs, subject to an income and assets test on the care recipient.
- **Double orphan pension** - A payment which provides assistance in meeting the costs of bringing up children who are orphans.
- **Exceptional circumstances** - This payment provides assistance to farmers living in 'exceptional circumstances' affected areas (e.g. areas affected by drought) who are having difficulty meeting family and personal living expenses.
- **Mobility allowance** - A payment which provides assistance to disabled people in employment or vocational training, who are unable to use public transport without substantial assistance.
- **Newstart mature age allowance** - A payment which commenced on 20 March 1994 providing assistance to older, long term unemployed males aged 60 and over, but below the Age Pension age.
- **Parenting payment - partnered** - The Parenting Payment attempts to ensure that a parent/guardian who is a member of a couple and who has a child under 16 years of age receives an adequate level of income without needing to look for work.
- **Partner allowance** - This payment provides assistance to older partners of a person receiving Job Search Allowance, Newstart Allowance, Sickness Allowance, Special Benefit, Rehabilitation Allowance, Age Pension, Disability Support pension, Disability Wage Supplement or Mature Age Allowance.
- **Sickness allowance** - A payment which provides assistance to people who are temporarily incapacitated and unable to work because of sickness or accident.
- **Special benefit** - A payment which provides assistance to a person in severe financial need due to circumstances outside their control, and for whom no other pension, allowance or other support are available.
- **Widow allowance** - A payment which commenced in January 1995, that assists women who become widowed, divorced or separated after turning 50 years of age, and who have no recent workforce experience.
- **Wife pension** - A payment which assists the wife of an Age or Disability Support pensioner, when the wife is not eligible for any other pension. The Wife Pension is being phased out from 1 July 1995.
- **Widow class B** - A payment which provides income to certain widows who do not have any dependent children, have limited means of income, and have lost the financial support of their partner. The Widow B Pension is gradually being phased out from 1 July 1987.

For the years shown, these payments were the responsibility of the Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services.

### Other vehicles

This includes light trucks which incorporates: trucks, buses, vans, all terrain wagons, pick-up/cab chassis (whether four-wheel drive or not) with a gross vehicle mass of 2.5 to 3.5 tonnes. Also included are heavy trucks and buses, with a gross vehicle mass exceeding 3.5 tonnes and four-wheel drive passenger vehicles.

### Own unincorporated business income

Income as reported on individual tax returns including net income (or loss) from: business and distributions from partnerships for primary and non-primary production activities; and trusts for primary production activities only. Excludes distributions from trusts for non-primary production activities. Excludes the income of working directors/owners of incorporated business who are classified as employees (as income is included under wage and salary income).

### Parenting payment

The Parenting Payment attempts to ensure that a parent/guardian (single or member of a couple) who has a child under 16 years of age receives an adequate level of income without needing to look for work. It is an amalgamation of the Parenting Allowance and the Sole Parent Pension. Within the Parenting Payment these

two former payments are known as the Parenting Payment (Partnered) and the Parenting Payment (Single) respectively. For the years shown, this payment was the responsibility of the Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services.

### **Passenger vehicles**

Includes vehicles designed primarily for the carriage of people, such as cars, station wagons and people movers. Does not include four-wheel drive passenger vehicles as these are included in 'Other vehicles'.

### **Pigments (WA)**

Comprises red oxide.

### **Population density**

The population density for a region is calculated by dividing the Estimated Resident Population (ERP) by the land area.

### **Pre-European extent (WA)**

Pre-European extent is the area of vegetation types prior to vegetation modification and clearing by European settlement.

### **Primary production property sale (SA)**

Sale of land used for farming, horticulture, commercial forestry, horse keeping or intensive animal keeping, or a dairy within the meaning of the Development Control Regulations (which relate to the Local Government (Land Use) Regulations, 1989).

### **Private sector houses**

A house is a detached building primarily used for long term residential purposes. It consists of one dwelling unit. Building ownership is classified as either public or private sector and is based on the sector of intended owner of the completed building at the time of approval.

### **Property damage (WA)**

An act (excl. graffiti) or failure to act with the intent to destroy or damage property.

### **Proportion of population in remoteness area**

Indicate the proportion of the population living in each category of Remoteness. The population counts are those at the 2001 Census.

### **Relative standard error**

The relative standard error (RSE) is a measure of sampling variability which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate to which it refers. For example, if the estimate is 0.5 and the standard error is 0.05, then the relative standard error will be 10%. The relative standard error is a useful measure in that it provides an immediate indication of the percentage of errors likely to have occurred due to sampling and thus avoids the need to refer also to the size of the estimate.

### **Remoteness area**

These areas provide a measurement of whether geographic distances impose restrictions on accessibility to the widest range of goods, services and opportunities for social interaction.

- **Major cities** - imposes minimal restriction
- **Inner regional** - imposes some restriction
- **Outer regional** - imposes moderate restriction
- **Remote** - imposes a high restriction
- **Very remote** - imposes the highest restriction

**Reported offences (WA)**

Reported offences are selected offences reported to, or becoming known to, police and resulting in the submission of a report.

**Residential building**

A residential building is a building consisting of one or more dwelling units. Residential buildings can be either houses or other residential buildings.

**Residential property sale (SA)**

In South Australia, this refers to the sale of land used for a dwelling within the meaning of the Development Control Regulations (which relate to the South Australian Local Government (Land Use) Regulations, 1989).

**Road traffic major injuries (Vic)**

In Victoria, these are defined as injuries requiring persons to be admitted to hospital.

**Robbery (WA)**

Includes the offences of non-aggravated robbery, aggravated robbery (firearm), and aggravated robbery (other).

**Roll entries (Tas)**

The number of registered properties in a particular geographical area.

**Roughness (Vic)**

Roughness less than 110nm (National Association of Australian State Road Authorities (NAASRA) roughness measure), is considered acceptable for non-metropolitan roads. With lower travel speeds in urban areas, roughness less than 140nm is considered acceptable for metropolitan roads.

**Rut depth (Vic)**

Rut depth is defined as the maximum gap under a 3.0m straight edge across a traffic lane.

**School (QLD)**

A school (other than a special school) must satisfy the following criteria:

- Its major activity is the provision of full-time day primary or secondary education or the provision of primary or secondary distance education.
- It is headed by a principal (or equivalent) responsible for its internal operation.
- It is possible for students to enrol for a minimum of 4 continuous weeks, excluding breaks for school vacations.

The term 'school' in this product includes special schools in institutions and hospitals, mission schools and similar establishments. The term excludes preschools, kindergarten centres, pre-primary schools or pre-primary classes in or attached to non-special schools, senior technical and agricultural colleges, evening schools, continuation classes and institutions such as business or coaching colleges.

**Secondary education**

In New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, and the Australian Capital Territory, secondary education may extend from Year 7 to Year 12. In Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, and the Northern Territory it may extend from Year 8 to year 12.

**Sedgeland (WA)**

Vegetation dominated by sedges or rushes usually associated with wetlands or waterways.

**Shrubland (WA)**

Vegetation dominated by shrubs between 0.5 and 3 metres high.

**Special school (QLD)**

A special school provides special instruction for physically and/or mentally disabled or impaired students, or those with social problems. Students must exhibit one or more of the following characteristics before enrolment is allowed:

- mental or physical disability or impairment;
- slow learning ability;
- social or emotional problems;
- in custody, on remand, or in hospital.

**State/Territory**

States and Territories are geographic areas and political entities with fixed boundaries. States and Territories consist of one or more Statistical Divisions. In aggregate, they cover Australia without gaps or overlaps.

**Statistical divisions**

Statistical divisions (SDs) consist of one or more statistical subdivisions (SSDs) and form a larger and more stable spatial unit for the presentation of data. SDs are defined as socially and economically homogeneous regions characterised by identifiable links between inhabitants, under the unifying influence of one or more major cities or towns. In aggregate, they cover Australia without gaps or overlaps.

**Statistical local areas**

The (SLA) is a general purpose spatial unit. It is the base spatial unit used to collect and disseminate statistics other than those collected from the Population Censuses. In non-census years, the SLA is the smallest unit defined in the ASGC. SLAs are based on the boundaries of incorporated bodies of local government (ie Local Government Areas or LGAs) where these exist. Where there is no incorporated body of local government, SLAs are defined to cover the unincorporated areas. One or more SLAs can make up an LGA. In aggregate, SLAs cover Australia without gaps or overlaps.

**Statistical subdivisions**

Statistical subdivisions (SSDs) consist of one or more Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) and form an intermediate size spatial unit for the presentation of data. SSDs are defined as socially and economically homogeneous regions characterised by identifiable links between inhabitants. One or more SSDs can make up a Statistical Division (SD). In aggregate, they cover Australia without gaps or overlaps.

**Steal motor vehicle (WA)**

Unlawfully using a motor vehicle without the consent of the owner or the person in charge of the vehicle.

**Student (QLD)**

A student is a person who is formally enrolled in a school and active in a course of study other than preschool or TAFE courses. Students not present at school on the annual National Schools Statistics Collection (NSSC) census date were included if they were expected to be absent for less than 4 continuous weeks (excluding school vacations) and were excluded if they had left the school or had been absent without explanation for 4 continuous weeks (excluding school vacations) prior to the census date.

**Superannuation and annuity income**

Includes superannuation and similar pensions and annuities paid by an Australian superannuation fund, a retirement savings account provider, a registered organisation or life assurance company and pensions paid by a fund established for the benefit of commonwealth, state or territory employees and their dependants. Includes bonuses from life insurance companies and friendly societies.

**Total selected income support customers**

Included are persons whose main payment type is Age Pension, Austudy, Carer Allowance, Carer Payment, Disability Support Pension, Double Orphan Pension, Exceptional Circumstances, Mobility Allowance, Newstart Allowance, Newstart Mature Age Allowance, Parenting Payment Partnered, Parenting Payment Single, Partner Allowance, Sickness Allowance, Special Benefit, Widow Allowance, Wife pension, Widow Class B and Youth Allowance. Excluded from income support customers are persons whose main payment type is Bereavement Allowance, Childcare Benefit, Farm Family Restart and Family Tax Benefit Parts A and B. For the years shown, these payments were the responsibility of the Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services. Brief descriptions of each included payment type are provided in this glossary.

### **Total income of wage and salary earners**

For wage and salary earners, the sum of income from all sources as reported on the individual income tax return for the financial year. Average total income in an area is calculated by dividing the total income by the total number of wage and salary earners.

### **Total vehicles**

Included are passenger vehicles, four-wheel drive vehicles, trucks, buses, vehicles with diplomatic and consular plates, State/Territory and Commonwealth owned vehicles and vehicles belonging to the defence forces. Excluded are motor cycles, plant and equipment and unpowered vehicles.

### **Theft (WA)**

The unlawful taking or obtaining of money, goods or services, without the use of force, threat of force or violence, coercion or deception, with the intent to permanently deprive the owner or possessor of the use of the money or goods. This category of offence includes the theft of vehicle parts or the contents of a vehicle.

### **Under construction (WA)**

In relation to Tourism Developments, this is work that has commenced. It includes all stages of construction from initial site preparation to final completion when a Certificate of Occupancy is issued. Tourism projects forming part of integrated residential or commercial developments will be deemed under construction when construction commences on the tourism component and not the residential or commercial components.

### **Unemployment**

Persons aged 15 and over who were not employed during the reference week and had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week or were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

### **Unemployment rate**

For any group, the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.

### **Value of agricultural production**

The value placed on recorded production at the wholesale prices realised in the market place.

### **Value of building**

Statistics on the value of building work approved are derived by aggregating the estimated 'value of building work when completed' as reported on building approval documents provided to local councils or other building approval authorities. Conceptually these value data should exclude the value of land and landscaping but include site preparation costs. These estimates are usually a reliable indicator of the completed value of 'houses'. However, for 'other residential buildings' and 'non-residential buildings', they can differ significantly from the completed value of the building as final costs and contracts have not been established before council approval is sought and gained.

### **Wage and salary earners**



Persons aged 15 years and over who have submitted an individual income tax return and for whom wage and salary income was the principal (or main) source of income for the financial year.

### **Wage and salary income**

Wage and salary income, as reported on the income tax return, includes gross income as shown on the 'PAYG payment summary - individual non-business' as well as allowances, commissions, bonuses, tips, gratuities, consultation fees, honoraria and other payments for services. Allowances and other earnings may include car, travel or transport allowances, allowances for tools, clothing or laundry and dirt, risk, meal or entertainment allowances. (Note: PAYG (Pay as You Go) payment summaries were previously known as Group Certificates). Average wage and salary income in an area is calculated by dividing the total wage and salary income by the total number of wage and salary earners.

### **Woodland (WA)**

Vegetation dominated by trees at least 3 metres high with a crown cover of between 20% and 50%.

### **Youth allowance**

A payment which commenced on 1 July 1998, that provides income support to young people who are either looking for work, studying or who are sick. For the years shown, this payment was the responsibility of the Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services.